REMARKS

Claims 1 - 21, 48 - 51 and 60 - 62 are pending.
Claims 1, 20, 48 - 51 and 60 - 62 are independent.

Claim Amendments

Claims 1, 48 and 49.
    Claims 1, 48 and 49 have been amended to indicate a non-subscription purchase of a periodical.

Claims 20, 50 and 51.
    Claims 20, 50 and 51 have been amended to make express what was previously implicit.

Claim 61.
    Claim 61 has been amended to correct an antecedent basis problem.

-6-

98-041 AM 01.08.02

PATENT

Conclusion

For the foregoing reasons it is submitted that all of the claims are now in condition for allowance and the Examiner's early re-examination and reconsideration are respectfully requested.

Alternatively, if there remains any question regarding the present application or any of the cited references, or if the Examiner has any further suggestions for expediting allowance of the present application, the Examiner is cordially requested to contact Dean Alderucci at telephone number 203-461-7337 or via electronic mail at Alderucci@WalkerDigital.com.

Applicants believe no fee is due. Please charge any additional fees that may be required for this Response, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0271.

If an extension of time is required, or if an additional extension of time is required in addition to that requested in a petition for an extension of time, please grant a petition for that extension of time which is required to make this Response timely, and please charge any fee for such extension to Deposit Account No. 50-0271.

Respectfully submitted,

Dean Alderucci
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 40,484
Alderucci@WalkerDigital.com
Walker Digital Corporation
Five High Ridge Park
Stamford, CT 06905-1326
203-461-7337 / voice
203-461-7300 / fax

January 8, 2002
Date

-7-

98-041 AM 01.08.02

C L A I M   A M E N D M E N T S
M A R K E D   U P   F O R M

Please **AMEND** the claims as follows:

1.   (AMENDED) A method for establishing a subscription to a periodical, comprising:

receiving an identifier that indicates a <u>non-subscription purchase of a</u> periodical;

determining if there is a subscription price stored for the periodical; and

outputting an offer for a subscription to the periodical if there is a subscription price stored for the periodical.

20.   (TWICE AMENDED) A method for establishing a subscription to a periodical, comprising:

optically scanning, at a POS terminal, a bar code that indicates a periodical;

determining an issue price of the periodical;

determining if the POS terminal can initiate a subscription for the periodical;

outputting an offer for [one of] <u>a choice between</u> an issue of the periodical and a subscription to the periodical, the offer including the issue price and the subscription price;

receiving a response to the offer, the response indicating one of the issue and the subscription; and

adding the subscription price to a purchase price if the response indicates the subscription.

48.   (AMENDED) A computer readable medium encoded with processing instructions for implementing a method performed by a computer for establishing a subscription to a periodical, the method comprising:

receiving an identifier that indicates a <u>non-subscription purchase of a</u> periodical;

determining if there is a subscription price stored for the periodical; and

outputting an offer for a subscription to the periodical if there is a subscription price stored for the periodical.

-8-

98-041 AM 01.08.02

PATENT

49. (AMENDED) An apparatus for establishing a subscription to a periodical, comprising:

means for receiving an identifier that indicates a <u>non-subscription purchase of a</u> periodical;

means for determining if there is a subscription price stored for the periodical; and

means for outputting an offer for a subscription to the periodical if there is a subscription price stored for the periodical.

50. (TWICE AMENDED) A computer readable medium encoded with processing instructions for implementing a method performed by a computer for establishing a subscription to a periodical, the method comprising:

optically scanning, at a POS terminal, a bar code that indicates a periodical;

determining an issue price of the periodical;

determining if the POS terminal can initiate a subscription for the periodical;

outputting an offer for [one of] <u>a choice between</u> an issue of the periodical and a subscription to the periodical, the offer including the issue price and the subscription price;

receiving a response to the offer, the response indicating one of the issue and the subscription; and

adding the subscription price to a purchase price if the response indicates the subscription.

51. (TWICE AMENDED) An apparatus for establishing a subscription to a periodical, comprising:

means for optically scanning, at a POS terminal, a bar code that indicates a periodical;

means for determining an issue price of the periodical;

means for determining if the POS terminal can initiate a subscription for the periodical;

means for outputting an offer for [one of] <u>a choice between</u> an issue of the periodical and a subscription to the periodical, the offer including the issue price and the subscription price;

means for receiving a response to the offer, the response indicating one of the issue and the subscription; and

-9-

PATENT

means for adding the subscription price to a purchase price if the response indicates the subscription.

61.   (AMENDED) A method comprising:

receiving an identifier that indicates an issue of a periodical being purchased;

determining if [the POS terminal can initiate] a subscription for the periodical can be initiated; and

outputting an offer for a subscription to the periodical.

-10-

98-041 AM 01.08.02